

R E M A R K S

The Office Action of July 10, 2006 has been reviewed and its contents carefully noted. Reconsideration of this case, as amended, is requested.

In the Office Action, the patentability of claims 51-94 was confirmed. Applicant appreciates the Examiner's favorable opinion with respect to claims 51-94.

Support for these amendments can be found in the application as originally filed.

Claims 51 - 94 remain in this case.

Claims 51 is an independent claim.

Claims 1 - 50 are canceled.

Applicant submits that no new search is required based upon the present amendment, and that the timely allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Specification (Abstract) Objections

The Examiner found the specification (abstract) objectionable, because the abstract exceeds 150 words and contains legalese language (i.e. "Comprise"). The specification (abstract) has been amended so that it is in conformance with \$608.01(b).

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the specification (abstract) objections are respectfully requested.

Double Patenting Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-50 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as claiming the same invention as that of claims 1-50 of prior U.S. Patent No. 6,698,085. In response to said double patenting rejection, Applicant hereby cancels claims 1-50 so that the conflicting claims are no longer coextensive in scope.

Thus, all grounds for rejection are traversed or accommodated, and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner found claims 51-94 to be allowable with the following examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Regarding independent claim 51, the prior art of record neither shows nor suggest a method of manufacturing an EL lamp and membrane switch

comprised of, in part, embossing the insulating flexible plastic film in a pattern comprising a serpentine spring member substantially forming a surrounding a frame element that is offset from the perimeter of the switch contact shunt electrode and permanently deforming the switch contact shunt and the insulating flexible plastic film to form a switch actuator surface bordered by the frame element, along with the rest of the limitations of the claim. Further, the Examiner stated that due to their dependency, claims 52-94 are necessarily allowable.

Thus, all grounds for rejection are traversed or accommodated, and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant believes no new search is needed by the Examiner. Applicant further believes the claims, as amended, are patentable over the prior art, and that this case is now in condition for allowance of all claims therein. Such action is thus respectfully requested. If the Examiner disagrees, or believes for any other reason that direct contact with Applicant's attorney would advance the prosecution of the case to finality, he is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

WU & CHEUNG, LLP

Dated: September 21, 2006

By: *Charles C.H. Wu*
Charles C.H. Wu, Esq.
REG. NO. 39,081
Vikram M. Reddy, Esq.
REG. NO. 53,508
98 DISCOVERY
IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92618-3105
TEL: 949-251-0111
FAX: 949-251-1588
USPTO CUSTOMER NO.: 25864



25864
PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE